**WASHINGTON, DC**- Today, Congressman Jim Costa (D-Fresno) announced that he is currently eligible to nominate a Congressional Page for the 2010 Spring session of the U.S. House of Representatives Democratic Page Program. Pages have been serving the House of Representatives for nearly two hundred years. Working as a team, Pages assist Members with their legislative duties, deliver correspondence and small packages within the congressional complex, answer phones in the Member cloakrooms, and prepare the House Floor for sessions.

"This is an outstanding opportunity for our young leaders to fully immerse themselves in the legislative process," Costa said. "House Pages play an integral role in the day-to-day activities of the U.S. House of Representatives, providing them with a unique and valuable learning experience."

The session begins January 24, 2010 and concludes on June 4, 2010. Qualified applicants must be at least sixteen years of age prior to the start of the program, must have completed the 10 <sup>th</sup> grade but not started the 12<sup>th</sup> grade and must be a citizen of the United States. Applicants must also have a 3.0 GPA or higher in their major subjects. While serving the House during the academic year, Pages live in the Page Residence Hall, a few blocks away from the Capitol and attend classes at the House Page School.

Interested students living in the State of California should contact Evan in Congressman Costa's D.C. office, at 202-225-3341, to begin the application process. The application deadline is Wednesday, November 11, 2009. More information is also available on Congressman Costa's website ( www.costa.house.gov) and at <a href="http://pageprogram.house.gov">http://pageprogram.house.gov</a>.